

Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

*Media Office
Democratic Caucus
John Schorg, Director
Statehouse, Room 157
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
1-800-382-9842 or 1-317-232-9621
Fax Number: 1-317-232-9792*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

October 27, 2005

TINCHER: IMPROVEMENTS AT MCCORMICK'S CREEK SET FOR APPROVAL

INDIANAPOLIS – Budget officials are about to give final approval to a series of appropriations that will improve and update facilities at McCormick's Creek State Park in Owen County, according to State Rep. Vern Tinchler (D-Riley).

Tinchler said members of the State Budget Committee are expected to approve three separate funding requests for McCormick's Creek during the group's monthly business meeting Friday (October 28) at Indiana University in Bloomington.

"Since these projects are on the final agenda for the budget committee meeting, I have been assured by committee members that they will be approved," Tinchler said. "Once completed, these improvements will provide great year-round benefits for those who visit McCormick's Creek."

The items set for final consideration are:

- Construction of an indoor pool at Canyon Inn. The project is part of a \$3.5 million request to cover new facilities at several state parks.

"In surveys conducted by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the public has said that an indoor pool is one attraction that will help draw more people to McCormick's Creek," Tinchler said.

- Improvements to the outside pool at Canyon Inn. The project is part of a \$500,000 request for pool repairs and rehabilitation at a couple of facilities.

"This funding will help upgrade the pool's concrete deck, which poses a safety hazard to patrons," Tinchler said. "The outdoor pool is more than 30 years old and needs these repairs."

- Purchasing new furniture and equipment at the park. Tinchler said 80 cabins located at McCormick's Creek and other sites are in need of updated amenities, thanks to continuous use by visitors. The \$425,000 request will help purchase new mattresses, bedding, couches, chairs, tables, lamps and appliances for these cabins, which are more than 25 years old.

"Since McCormick's Creek was Indiana's first state park, I believe we should pay special attention to make sure it is one of the crown jewels of our system," Tinchler said. "People come here from all over to wander through the park's unique limestone formations and scenic waterfalls and walk and ride along the many trails. I am pleased to see that state recognizes the importance of this park to our state, and is willing to commit funding that will keep it a strong attraction into the future."

---30---

This news release can be accessed on the Internet at www.IN.gov/H46